

04

Eleni Georgiadis

Grade: 9

Carmel High School

Courage, Sacrifice, and Duty

"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do," Eleanor Roosevelt. Today, the United States employs hundreds of thousands of citizens as soldiers in our army, navy, air force, and National Guard. These citizens are of many ethnicities and backgrounds; they have many differences.

One of the few things that all of these people have in common is a love of our country over their own personal safety. These people are by far the bravest men and women to be found. These soldiers put their life on the line everyday in order to ensure the safety of our nation and its citizens. By these ordinary people, courage, sacrifice, and duty are exemplified as a quotidian of daily life.

Courage is quite different than the showy stunts so often personified by national icons, like Superman or Batman. Those with true courage do not dress in capes or have theme songs; instead they are those who are so brave as to face death willingly for the protection and betterment of others' lives.

Sacrifice is clearly exemplified by our soldiers. They leave their homes, families, and comforts of life; they leave the certainty and comfort of all they have known and turn boldly to face danger and confusion. Sacrifice is also shown by the families left behind, who must struggle on, hoping and praying.

Duty is also a virtue possessed by these brave soldiers. For the sake of duty to their country and family, they turn from home and face death and dangers unknown. By the courage, duty, and sacrifice of these thousands of protectors, avengers, and peacekeepers, our nation is able to continue and flourish.

Parents: Drs. Taxiarchis and Millie Georgiadis

Phone: 574-0480

e-mail: mgeorgia@iupui.edu